

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A drive axle assembly (10) includes a carrier (24) for supporting a differential case (22) with axle shafts (14, 16) extending therethrough and rotatable with the differential case (22) relative to the carrier (24). A plurality of friction discs (74, 76) are disposed within the differential case (22) and are alternatively connected to the differential case (22) and a drive hub (78), which is connected to one of the axle shafts (14). A sleeve (100) is operably connected to a piston (90) for generating a thrust force and for transmitting the thrust force through the sleeve (100) to move the friction discs (74, 76) closer together. A plurality of levers (104) are operably connected one with the other and disposed between the sleeve (100) and the friction discs (74, 76) to amplify the thrust force of the sleeve (100).